

# The Times-Dispatch

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HOW TO CALL TIMES-DISPATCH.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1908.

A reasonable watchfulness against conformity with the lead of a mob is the aid of other men, still less to reject the accumulated mental capital of the ages—Arthur Helps.

## STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

Delegate W. W. Baker's bill concerning the State Board of Health comes up to-day on a special order. The bill is not altogether acceptable to a number of physicians, who feel that too little consideration is given to the State Medical Society and too much power is given the Governor, who makes all the appointments of membership on the new board. Be this as it may, and without in the least degree denying the fitness of the Medical Society of Virginia to nominate fitly suitable members for the Board of Health, it must be remembered that Governor Swanson is fully capable of making unexceptionable appointments; that the present bill carries an essential appropriation, and that it is this bill or nothing. It is absolutely true that Virginia is more backward in State work for better health conditions than in any other department of public undertaking. Mr. Baker's bill may not be perfect; it is, however, an intelligent beginning in a most important line. To kill this bill means two more years of the inefficiency that necessarily comes from lack of funds—that is, preventable epidemics of small-pox, typhoid and diphtheria and the spread of tuberculosis, which now cannot be efficiently dealt with by the State Board, will be controlled and stamped out through the use of those funds which have been so long and so foolishly denied the present board.

## 1873-1890-1907.

Underlying conditions are sound. The germ of growth is planted in congenial soil, and continued American prosperity is as certain as the rising of the sun or the return of the summer. Those who hark back to the melancholy experience of 1873 or the deadening terrors of 1893 would do well to consider the differences as well as the similarities between those years and the present time.

In 1873, as Mr. Theodore Price recently pointed out in his address in Baltimore, the United States Treasury held only \$22,500,000, both gold and silver. In 1893 it held only \$96,500,000 in gold. To-day there is over \$1,900,000,000 in the United States Treasury, while the combined gold reserve of the European governments of Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the Netherlands aggregate \$1,541,000,000, compared with \$8,854,000,000 in 1893.

As 65 per cent. of our people are agriculturists, agriculture is still the most important of our industries. It is well, therefore, to consider the value of this industry. In 1890 the total value of agricultural products was \$2,750,000,000. In 1907 the value of agricultural products had nearly doubled, being \$7,000,000,000. Our wealth is increasing at the rate of \$12,000,000 a day, our bank clearings, our per capita circulation and our individual earning power are the largest on earth.

In delivering his eulogy on President McKinley, the late John Hay said in 1902:

"Coming to the development of our trade in the four McKinley years, we seem to be entering the realm of fable. In the last fiscal year our excess of exports over imports was \$664,592,826. In the last four years it was \$2,354,442,213. These figures are so stupendous that they mean little to a careless reader—but consider! The excess of exports over imports for the whole preceding period from 1790 to 1897—only \$256,893,422."

The most extravagant promises made by the sanguine McKinley advocates five years ago are left out of sight by these sober facts. The debtor nation has become the chief creditor nation. The financial center of the world, which required thousands of years to journey from the Euphrates to the Thames and the Seine, seems passing to the Hudson between daybreak and dark."

But what has happened in the four years ended 1902 promises to be far eclipsed by the record of our foreign trade for the year ending July 1, 1908. For the month of January, 1908, alone, the balance of trade in favor of America was \$120,000,000, and it seems not improbable that for the twelve months ending July 1, 1908, we shall have exported possibly \$800,000,000 more merchandise than we have imported. Should we for the next five months maintain the January figures, our balance of

trade for the year would be something over one thousand millions, and this in only one year, while, from 1790 to 1897, our entire excess of exports over imports was only \$356,000,000. The significance of this showing is irresistible. In the face of it, who can believe that the present depression can long continue, or that, in fact, it has not already passed?

Mr. Price goes on to argue that the production of gold has caused the extraordinary increase in the value of our agricultural products, and that the changing basis of value due to the increased amount of gold in circulation has caused the slump in the stock market and a consequent revaluation of railroad securities. Whether Mr. Price is right or not in his argument, it is indisputable that we have had ten years of uninterrupted increase of our material wealth in gold, iron, timber, foodstuffs, cattle and manufactures. During this long period we have had no great devastation of plague or famine. Our cities have not been destroyed by earthquakes or our fields laid waste by drought. The wealth of the people and all that makes for comfort and convenience have been enormously increased. To The Times-Dispatch it seems inevitable that the people at large will soon learn that railroads, which are the largest manufacturing industries in this country, cannot pay high wages without receiving high rates. When once this lesson is laid to heart the end of the present depression in securities' values will be in sight. If the manufacturers want to sell goods to the railroads; if the railroad employees want steady work and high wages, it will be absolutely necessary to allow the railroads to charge living rates for the services they render, and we believe that the time is not far distant when the public as a whole will see the need of this principle and insist upon its practice. In the meantime, there is no ground for doubting the basic wealth, strength and ultimate prosperity of this country.

## SOME TIMES-DISPATCH VICTORIES.

When McCue was executed in Charlottesville for the murder of his wife, The Times-Dispatch took the position that a local hanging was an infliction which no civilized community should be required to stand, and proposed a law providing that all condemned criminals should be executed in the penitentiary. At first the supporters of the proposition were few, but the number continued to grow, until the Legislature was converted, and the bill to abolish local executions has now been passed. There will be no more bungled hangings in Virginia. There will be no more hangings of any sort. All persons condemned to pay the death penalty will be taken to the penitentiary and electrocuted.

The bill, which has now passed both branches of the Legislature, making the unlawful selling or handling of cocaine a felony, is another measure which The Times-Dispatch has supported and urged, and we are gratified that it has become a law. There are no two sides to the promiscuous traffic in cocaine. It is a menace to society that must not be tolerated.

The House has also passed Senate bill providing for a teachers' retirement fund. For several years The Times-Dispatch has assisted the teachers in prosecuting this measure, and we rejoice with them that their efforts have finally prevailed with the law-makers. It is a measure in the interest of worthy but disabled teachers, and especially in the interest of the public school service.

Another measure in which The Times-Dispatch has taken deep interest, and which has passed the House, is that of compulsory school attendance on the local option plan. Governor Montague first made this wise suggestion, and it was afterwards approved by Superintendent Eggleston and others of the educational authorities. It simply allows each community to decide for itself whether or not children between the ages of eight and twelve years of age shall be required to attend school. There was a time when education was regarded as a luxury; it is now regarded as a necessity, and the day is not distant when every progressive State will make education obligatory. There is no help for it. Virginia is not yet ready for a general compulsory act, but we are informed that several counties are ready for a compulsory regulation, and that if the bill is passed giving them local option, they will lose no time in taking action.

Virginians move slowly. We can recall no important reform measure passed by the Legislature that was not a subject of agitation in this State for years. But all worthy measures sooner or later have their day in the Virginia Legislature.

## THE GOING OF THE FREAKS.

The circus freaks have got to go. Willard D. Coxey, manager of the Greatest Show on Earth and itinerant friar of acumen and repute, has sent forth the fiat. He says that people have got tired of human prodigies, even the children barely glancing at them as they hurry on toward the live pithon and the genuine two-horned African rhinoceros. Therefore, the splendid Barnum collection of odd fellows has suddenly become a drug on the market. Coxey offered them to Pawnee Bill gratis, and Pawnee declined with thanks. Nobody seems to want them any more, and nothing lies ahead of them but the dirty "only-a-dime" museums of East Fourteenth Street and the Bowery.

This is tragic for the freaks, and rather sad for some of the rest of us. Many of the dearest circus recollections of our youth are intertwined about the figures of the "amazing features of the curio hall." The circus will never be the same without them. It may be better in some regards, but it will never be the same; and the wish to have things "the same" comes close to men as they grow older. Who would give 2 cents for a circus without Gertrude and Sophy—or words to that

effect—the "original" conjoined twins, and Joseph-Joseph, him of the canine face? Talk of Hamlet with the Dana eliminated! What man of years and sentiment could enter the intoxicating and peanuty atmosphere of the Big Tent without looking instinctively for the bearded lady of Andalusia, for the iron-footed Circassian lass—positively the only one in captivity in the world? See her walk up the glittering sword-blades—for the Wild Man of Borneo; for Bosco, who bites their heads off; and for all the others of the 25—count 'em—25 Astonishing Big Features?

Mr. Coxey's word is law, no doubt, but the freaks will be missed by all true-hearted men who gather their little boys by the hand and face forth to purchase crimson lemonade and applaud the efforts of Bongo, the perspiring clown. The fact that unofficial and non-professional freaks will continue to abound, as heretofore, will prove to these, in such a crisis, pitifully small consolation.

## CASTRO, AGAIN.

Peppery little Mr. Castro, of Venezuela, is again shaking his fist in the face of trouble. The State Department at Washington is once more showering him with "unqualified demands," and once more is he accepting them in a peevish and surly manner. Six issues are now outstanding between this country and his, the liveliest of which is, as it has been for a long time, the \$8,000,000 fine imposed by him upon the so-called asphalt trust. The administration has made the asphalt company's difficulties its own, whether wisely or not is of small moment just now. Last week, through the American minister at Caracas, it filed a demand that this and all the other cases should be submitted to arbitration, and Castro refused pointblank. This leaves the administration in a position where it must abandon its demand or take steps to enforce it. Dispatches from Washington indicate intentions in the latter direction. We are told that "events in connection with this disagreement are moving rapidly, and developments of interest are looked for any day."

Castro is easily the trouble-centre of the Western Hemisphere. His cocky independence, his defiant obstinacy, his reckless bravado in speech and conduct, have kept him for years upon the brink of dire punishment. Great Britain, Germany and France, as well as the United States, have all had to threaten him in recent memory. Four years ago army officers of this country were sent privately to Venezuela to make observations with reference to a possible conflict. At that time the situation was acute; but then, as later, a combination of good luck and a certain latent judiciousness behind his apparently unrestrained foolhardiness have saved the hot-headed ruler from castigation. But his impudence appears incurable. One of his recent observations to Mr. Root's department was to the effect that he would not deal diplomatically with "Yankee pigs." In his present mood he appears to be itching for chastisement.

Probably, however, at the proper moment Don Cipriano will subside. It is to be sincerely hoped, on every account, that he will do so. A crisis with Venezuela over the intricate affairs of the asphalt company is distinctly not to be desired. A punitive expedition to the almost inaccessible Venezuelan capital would be full of hazard, and could bring no glory to this country in any case. Smoking out Castro might be a pleasant task from the point of view of exacting physical satisfaction, but by no stretch of the imagination could it be described as easy.

## THE RENTER PAYS THE TAX.

A correspondent of a Boston newspaper, in discussing rents and hard times, says that the owners of houses could reduce rents if their taxes were reduced.

That is a saying which we commend to every renter in Richmond. When the ordinary citizen speaks of the tax-payers, he means the property owners. Mr. A owns a block of stores or a dozen tenement houses, valued at \$100,000, and we say that Mr. A is a large tax-payer. "Why, that man pays taxes on \$100,000 worth of real estate!" But does he? Does he pay a dollar of the tax on the property so long as it is tenanted? The tenant pays the tax every time. Therefore, the tax rate is a thing that more deeply concerns the man who rents a residence than the man who owns the property, and therefore the renters should take a keen interest in municipal government and municipal elections. They should urge good men to run for the Council, and should give their votes to the best men in the race, regardless of personal favoritism. They should uphold those members of the Council who try to keep down the expenses of government and make the tax rate as low as possible. When the government is extravagant and the tax rate oppressive, the burden falls upon the tenant and not on the landlord. The tenant may not realize it, but he pays the tax when he pays the rent.

## SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENTS.

The horrible holocaust in a Cleveland suburb, by which nearly 200 school children lost their lives, was due to the fact that the doors to the building opened inward. The children were jammed in the hallways, where escape was impossible, and perished in the smoke and flames.

## IT IS INCONCEIVABLE THAT IN THIS DAY OF SCIENTIFIC ARCHITECTURE A SCHOOL BUILDING SHOULD HAVE BEEN SO STUPIDLY CONSTRUCTED, AND THE CALAMITY IS A WARNING TO EVERY CITY, TOWN AND COUNTY IN THE LAND.

## A SOP TO HAM.

The Ohio Republican platform contains the following plank:

"The civil and political rights of the American negro in every State, believing, as we do, that his marvelous progress in intelligence, industry and good citizenship has earned the respect and encouragement of the nation, and that those legislative enactments that

# Red Checker Men

Float the red checkers from a bowl of water and you will know why blood is red. Blood has millions and millions of little red wheels floating in a clear fluid. The professor calls them red corpuscles. Well,

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makes red corpuscles. These little red wheels grow in the bone marrow. SCOTT'S EMULSION contains a power which feeds and puts new life into the bone marrow of pale people.

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have for their real aim his disenfranchisement for reasons of color alone are unfair, un-American and repugnant to the supreme law of the land; we favor the reduction of representation in Congress and the electoral college in all States of this nation where white and colored citizens are disfranchised, to the end that the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States may be enforced according to its letter and spirit."

This is so palpably a bid for the negro vote that it has a humorous flavor. President Roosevelt has given the colored men and brethren great offense, and something must be done to placate them.

The Houston Post attributes the lines beginning, "Of heaven or hell I have no power to sing," to "a poet in the St. Louis Times." Just why the spirit of cultured and aesthetic William Morris should have sought out St. Louis to sing over the old songs in his doubtless have to remain a mystery.

It appears that a thirteenth century ciborium was sold in London the other day for \$2,000. A Quaker opinion is that this is an absurdly low price for a ciborium. Possibly, though, it was only a low-grade ciborium, and found not up to the advertisements.

"Kissing the elder women in the flock," says the Rev. Dr. MacArthur, apropos of the case of Rev. E. Warren Sappington—known as "the kissing parson of Syracuse"—"is not so bad, of course, as kissing young women." Bad, Doctor? Well, well, well!

Of a New Yorker who died in London on Sunday the Associated Press cable says: "He had been living in straightened circumstances on an allowance." This is an encouraging item in an age when so many men are living in crooked circumstances on the graft.

We learn from the Atlanta Georgian that the only lady shortlier in the world—she of the Brunswick (Ga.) Journal—has ruled that the feminine of paragraph is paragrapher. This should settle for all time the hash of the controversy. The Georgia Journal, in the meanwhile, Harrison, make your will—Atlanta Georgian.

"At the rate things are going in Kentucky, the Republican Party will be long before we can blame the night-hiders on the Republicans." Well, that are we waiting on?—Bristol Herald-Courier.

"The Big Secretaries' friends say that he talks with the fire of genius," observes the Atlanta Constitution. Yes, we believe the Big Secretaries do talk with senatorial fire. We have heard Foraker referred to as "the Alamo," or was it "false"?—Kansas City Post.

The greatest optimist on Russian royal affairs we know of is the Cincinnati Enquirer, which reproduces a portrait of the Czarevitch under the caption "Future Ruler of Russia."

"Fishin's good this year," ecstatically cries the Boston Globe, a newspaper located in the jovial license-belt, where a man can openly carry his bait on his hip.

It is idle for poker fiends, roulette devotees and others to look so pleasantly on President Roosevelt's promise to help protect the game birds positively does not apply to them.

The next gentleman who wants to assassinate Chief Shippy will probably practice more self-denial.

We doubt if Mrs. Robert Livingston Gerry will ever envy Countess What-d'you-call-it.

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Best Bread, Loaf..... 4c  
Dunlop Flour, per sack..... 35c  
Fat Pork, very nice..... 7½c  
indeed..... 7½c  
Mixed Nuts, per lb..... 10c  
Best Sugar Cured Ham..... 14c  
Leaf Lard, per pound..... 10c  
Good Roasted Coffee, per pound..... 12½c  
Large Cabbage, each..... 5c, 7c  
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Best fresh meats in town at the lowest prices.

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# Rhymes for To-Day

## THE DOTTY DIALOGUES.

12. The Adventure of the Rajah's Idol.  
SHE strolled down the garden path  
And picked some "Brown's Best"  
Flours;  
He gave the horse a nice warm bath  
And mixed six whiskey soups.  
By evening he was pretty stewed—  
He sang, "I wish my darling"  
But he mistook it for "Laway! Ain't he rude!"  
And said it kind of snarling.

That out him deep; the year remained  
While long years were elapsing—  
Perhaps had that been then explained—  
But why go on perhapings?

He merely smiled a sad, sad smile,  
And cried: "God bless the ladies!"  
And she said nothing for awhile,  
And then (to rhyme)—"O Hades!"

He staggered homeward through the mist,  
And she looked sadly after:  
"That's one more kiss I haven't kissed,"  
Thought she—and burst with laughter.

He pushed in through a swinging door,  
Where many glasses tilted;  
"Bartender, shet 'em up some more!"  
Cried he. "Three cheers! I'm jilted!"

Next morn he called with deep regret—  
"Said he, 'I'm low with measles,'  
So he bought tickets for Tibet."  
And started peddling easels.

## MERELY JOKING.

Revised.  
"He is thoroughly versed in the drama, I understand."  
"I guess so," responded the beautiful girl. "When a peeper gets in the audience he can tell in a minute if it's a genuine comedy or just a part of the show."—Washington Herald.

## The Fan's Idea.

"I think," said the first Washington man, "that our Senators should be selected by popular vote."  
"I've examined the sporty-looking one, and what kind of a ball team could we get that way?"—Philadelphia Press.

## A Comic-Opera Plot.

"Given a dapper king with one daughter who sings soprano and other who sings contralto, and each a crowd of attendants—  
"Yes."  
"And you've got all the elements of a comic opera."—Kansas City Journal.

## TWITTING THE TIMES-DISPATCH.

THERE is no denying the gallantry of Colonel Merzetta. For instance, every time the Richmond Times-Dispatch paragraph mentions the star-eyed blonde, the Colonel makes it "star-eyed."—Bristol Herald-Courier.

Why do not the comet-eyed blondes of Richmond try their handiwork on the mountain members of the Virginia Legislature?—Herald.

The editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch has located Heaven. He says that it is about nine blocks west of Richmond, Va. City Hall—Newrich (Conn.) Bulletin.

The young men of the Richmond Times-Dispatch are not enterprising. That paper says: "No kisses are ever stolen from the star-eyed blondes of royal Richmond."—Knoxville Sentinel.

The question is largely academic, anyway, because women never paragraph. They column—Richmond Times-Dispatch. Respectfully to the clever lady who paragraphed in the Brunswick Journal, in the meanwhile, Harrison, make your will—Atlanta Georgian.

"At the rate things are going in Kentucky, the Republican Party will be long before we can blame the night-hiders on the Republicans." Well, that are we waiting on?—Bristol Herald-Courier.

"The Big Secretaries' friends say that he talks with the fire of genius," observes the Atlanta Constitution. Yes, we believe the Big Secretaries do talk with senatorial fire. We have heard Foraker referred to as "the Alamo," or was it "false"?—Kansas City Post.

## Voice of the People.

The Times-Dispatch will print signed letters on all questions which relate to the public welfare. Such articles should not exceed in length more than 500 words, except under exceptional circumstances, should be signed with the full name of the writer, and should bear his or her address. If the writer wishes his letter will be withheld if desired.

## A New Road Law.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—  
Sir:—The bill recently introduced for improvement of the public roads seems to be considered a hardship on sawmill men, or class legislation.

The writer of this, being interested in the timber, mercantile business and farming, would like to suggest as a substitute for the bill first mentioned, one which would seem fair to every interest or business in our State, and at the same time produce the desired improvement to the roads.

That is, make a law taxing narrow-tired wagons a certain amount, say \$2 per year, medium tires not quite so much, wide tires not at all or very little. This will force a man to destroy his narrow tires now in use, but will make it to his interest to go the wide tires whenever a new wagon is purchased, which will in a few years make them in general use all over the State, and in the meantime the additional tax levied on the narrow tires will help fill up the bad places caused by them.

Broad tires act to some extent like a roller, pressing the water out of the ground and letting it run off, instead of cutting a deep trench in which it will represent a hindrance to saturation through the soil.

I would like to see an improvement on this suggestion if any one will make it; otherwise would be glad for our legislators to blacken this plan.

A BLACKSTONIAN.  
Blackstone, Va., March 5, 1908.

## Whiskey and Cocaine.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—  
Sir:—Your editorial in Tuesday's issue, based on the tragedy of Sunday night, is a very clear and emphatic advocacy of prohibition, so far as the selling of cocaine is concerned. Your position that, because the use of cocaine tends to incite to crime, its promiscuous sale ought to be suppressed by heavy penalties, is undoubtedly sound. But your own news columns being witness of the use of whiskey in ten times, perhaps fifty times as much crime as the use of cocaine.

In the very case mentioned, the criminal charged his acts, not to cocaine, but to "red whiskey." By what process of reasoning, then, does The Times-Dispatch reach the conclusion that the prohibition of cocaine selling is holy and just, while the same law applied to whiskey is infelicitous and bad? To be consistent, the editor ought to call a local option election on the subject.

Farmville, Va., March 5, 1908.

## Agrees With Times-Dispatch.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—  
Sir:—The contention that the people at large are thinking for themselves along political lines, and that the party cry over the measure is lost in the force, is amply sustained by the tone of the many letters about the position of the Legislature regarding the Rhea matter. I would like to say that while

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You are securing the very best that money will buy.

# The Great National Snapshot

BY FREDERICK J. HASKIN.

Preparations are now being made for the putting of a mighty army into the field by the spring of 1910. It is proposed to make the soldiers of this army and train them and drill them with great care for the important work that will confront them. It will number about 65,000 able-bodied American citizens, recruited from every school district in the land, and it is not to be mustered in for the purpose of invading other lands, neither is it to be called into existence to repel a foreign foe from our shores. It is to be a peace army, not of war. It is the great census army called into existence to furnish Uncle Sam a snapshot of himself. He likes to know how he looks every ten years. He likes to take stock and let the world know once in awhile the size of the clothes he has to wear. And in these days of central views of himself he does not stand back on account of the expense. Last time it cost him some \$15,000,000, and it cost him \$10,000,000 more this time, for he has grown some since then.

The taking of the thirteenth census will be the biggest job of the kind ever undertaken by man. To get careful and accurate information about the more than 30,000,000 souls who will then be living in this country, and to get all of that information together within the thirty or forty days allowed by law, will be a gigantic undertaking that there are indications that the thirteenth census will be the most accurate and the most complete census that has ever been taken. In previous censuses the laws providing for them have been passed so late as to allow little time for the preparation of the work. An illustration of this is that in the taking of the twelfth census, which had not been placed in the hands of the printer until the day before the census was taken, the census takers had to make all their preparations for the taking of the twelfth census was not passed until March 3, 1899. When he took the census, he had to make a few scattered old typewriter, badly out of repair; one horse of uncertain age, one old wagon, unfit for anything but a trashman's vehicle, one old cart, a few scattered records and papers, 128,000 reports of the eleventh census, which had not been placed in the hands of the printer until the day before the census was taken. This was all that was left of the plant on which had been expended \$11,000,000, fifteen months before the result was to be made public. It was a very poor plant, but it was ready for the fray.

Conditions will be vastly different when the taking of the thirteenth census is begun. The census takers will be creating the permanent Census Bureau was passed. Through it there has been a great improvement in the way of working under the twelfth census. By this time every one of the 1,000 workers in that bureau has become an expert in his line of work. The census takers will be gathered together. The director has had years of the most valuable training, and each of his assistants has enjoyed like advantages.

Instead of a nondescript, bargain-day lot of things to start with, like Governor Merzetta had, the census takers will start in with a bureau fully equipped with every sort of appliance that can promote the taking of census. All that the census takers will have to do is to spread out. In addition to these advantages, he will start out in his great work with a law passed a year earlier than that under which Governor Merzetta operated. It will give him opportunity to have the 330 superintendents of the census takers in his duties. It will give the enumerators some three months to acquaint themselves with the work they have to do, and to make a study of these enumerators that the real value of the work must depend. The preliminary work may be likened to the work of a man who has to get ready to the eating of it and the tabulation to the assimilation of the food thus eaten. It all depends on what is eaten and how it is eaten. If the enumerators do not do their work well, there can be no accuracy nor any opportunity to rectify the errors.

Another feature of the thirteenth census will be the omission of the collection of data relating to vital statistics. The census takers will be collecting the line of information every year, and this covers about one-half of the population of the country. The census takers will be gathering information gathered about mines and mining and quarries. The field work will also be done earlier than heretofore. The census takers will be equipped on previous occasions, because in the cities many people would shut in their homes and go to the mountains or the seashore, and the census takers would be unable to get them. The census takers will be equipped with the most modern machinery. Millions of cards will be numbered on electrical machines not dissimilar from an electric typewriter. The cards will then be put through another machine, which will tabulate the returns. These machines are the invention of Dr. Her-

I agree with The Times-Dispatch's view of that unfortunate affair. I do not agree with the strictures upon Judge Mann in this connection, nor do I believe for an instant that he has lost by his course the support of any considerable number of people. Eighty-six per cent. of the voters of Virginia are in favor of the present law, and the Virginia State is doing small service to either by throwing stones at Judge Mann, whose loyalty to both furnishes the sole basis for criticism against him.

Charlotteville, Va., March 4, 1908.

## Snuffers.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—  
Sir:—In your editorial, "The Preacher's View of the Rhea Case," you state the cruel report circulated about the country's friend, Mr. Pinchot, to the effect that "he is crazy."

This character of misrepresentation is becoming so popular with malicious slanderers and so easily believed by the public, that it is necessary to issue a statement and the greater the pleasure they derive from their fellow-citizens' supposed or real mental misfortune, the more they will be gratified by the doctors' argument.